**Increase in consumption of tobacco**

1337.DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that consumption of tobacco and other tobacco products has increased in the country after imposition of ban on smoking in public places;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures taken by Government to curb consumption of tobacco and other tobacco products in the country;

(d) the expenditure incurred by Government or other agencies like NGOs for this purpose during the last three years, year-wise; and

(e) the future programme chalked out by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (b) No such studies have been made by Government of India after imposition of 'The Prohibition of smoking in Public Places Rules, 2008", who has been notified vide GSR No. 417(E) dated 30th May 2008 and has come into force from 2nd October 2008.

(c) to (e) "The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003" enacted in the year 2003 is intended to discourage the consumption of tobacco products, the salient features of which are as under:-

(i) prohibition of smoking in a public place;

(ii) prohibition of direct and indirect advertisement;

(ii) prohibition of sale of tobacco products to minors;

(iv)prohibition of sale of tobacco products within 100 yards of educational institutions;

(v) Mandatory depiction of specified pictorial health warnings on all tobacco product packs.

Government of India has launched the pilot phase of the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) in 18 Districts of 9 States during the year 2007-08. The programme broadly includes:

1. Capacity building of the State in the effective implementation of the Tobacco Control Act, 2003;

2. Train health workers, school teachers etc. on ill effects of Tobacco.

3. Engage NGOs, to carry out school programme in the Government Schools.

4. Mass media/IEC campaign, tailored to regional needs.

An amount of Rs.95.00 lakhs, Rs.5.00 Crores and Rs.29.00 Crores was spent during the year 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 respectively for carrying out anti-tobacco campaign to discourage the consumption of tobacco products. The number of pilot districts have been increased to 42 in 2008-09.